**Thomas A. Edison Papers Digital Edition**

**Edison-Miller Family Records**

**Edison-Ford Winter Estates, Fort Myers, Fla.**

**[X104E-F] Edison, Madeleine**

**Edison-Miller Family Papers**

**Title**

[X104E-F] Edison, Madeleine

**Description**

These documents consist of correspondence and other items by Madeleine Edison (1888-1979), the eldest child and only daughter of Thomas and Mina Edison. Included is a letter from 1898 celebrating the eighth birthday of her brother Charles, as well as an essay from January 1901 entitled "Christmas Day." There is also an undated letter to her maternal grandmother, Mary Valinda Miller, written during the summer of 1909 while Madeleine was vacationing at Edgartown, Massachusetts.

**URL**

https://edisondigital.rutgers.edu/folder/X104E-F

**Identifier**

X104E-F

**Alternative Title**

Edison-Miller Family Papers -- Edison, Madeleine

**Is Part Of**

Edison-Miller Family Papers

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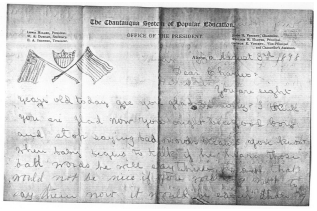

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# [X104EA], Letter from Madeleine Edison to Charles Edison, August 3rd, 1898

**Title**
[X104EA], Letter from Madeleine Edison to Charles Edison, August 3rd, 1898

**Author**
Edison, Madeleine

**Recipient**
Edison, Charles

**Mentioned**

- Edison, Theodore Miller
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

**Date**
1898-08-03

**Type**
Letter

**Subject**

- Edison-Miller family
- Celebrations (anniversaries, birthdays, holidays)

**Folder ID**
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**Document ID**
X104EA

**URL**
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Thomas A. Edison Papers, School of Arts and Sciences, Rutgers University

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**Timestamp**
3 August 1898

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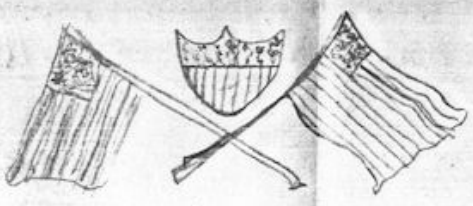
The Chautauqua System of Popular Education.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT.

Lewis Miller, President.
W. A. Duncan, Secretary.
E. A. Skinner, Treasurer.

John H. Vincent, Chancellor.
William R. Harper, Principal.
George E. Vincent, Vice-Principal
and Chancellor's Assistant.



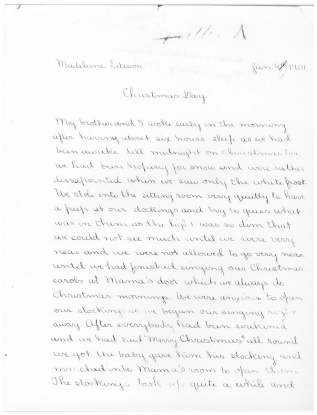
Akron, O., August 3rd 1896

Dear Charles:

You are eight years old to day are you glad or sorry? I think you are glad Now you ought to be a good boy and stop saying bad words because you know when baby begins to talk if he hears those bad words he will say them. I think that would not be nice if you would try not to say them now it would be easier than to

ing when baby begens to ~~talk~~ talk don't you
think so? I got your nice letter yesterday
and it was very nice. How are baby and Ma
ma? I sent the ticket for my watch did you
get it? Are you going to have a party of any
kind? wait till I come home ending my
Kind, you'll see Something I must stop
good-bye
Madeleine

charles is eight to day
oh how proud he
may he live long and ~~happy~~ be
as proud and happy as to day
M E



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# [X104EB], Essay, Madeleine Edison, January 4th, 1901

**Title**
[X104EB], Essay, Madeleine Edison, January 4th, 1901

**Author**
Edison, Madeleine

**Mentioned**

- Edison, Charles
- Edison, Theodore Miller
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)

**Date**
1901-01-04

**Type**
Essay

**Subject**
Edison-Miller family

**Folder ID**
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**Document ID**
X104EB

**URL**
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**Timestamp**
4 January 1901

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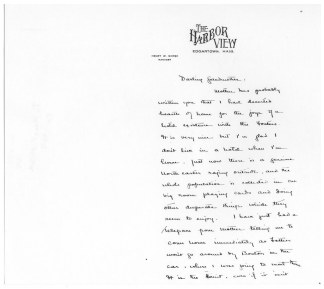
Madeleine Edison

Jan. 4th 1901

## Christmas Day

My brother and I woke early in the morning after having about six hours sleep as we had been awake till midnight on Christmas Eve we had been hoping for snow and were rather dissapointed when we saw only the white frost. We stole into the sitting room very quietly to have a peep at our stockings and try to guess what was in them, as the light was so dim that we could not see much until we were very near and we were not allowed to go very near until we had finished singing our Christmas carols at Mama's door which we always do Christmas mornings. We were anxious to open our stockings so we began our singing right away. After everybody had been wakened and we had said "Merry Christmas" all round we got the baby, gave him his stocking, and marched into Mama's room to open them. The stockings took up quite a while and

we were quite for breakfast when at last we had taken the last thing out of our Stockings. We were also quite ready to see the tree so every body assembled soon after breakfast and the doors were opened and we saw the tree in all its glory. It was hung with chains of gold and silver balls and yards and yards of tinsel there were colored electric lamps all through it (they last much better than candles and make a pretty display) We had Santa Claus come in for baby (who was a little afraid of the dear old man until he saw some small cars and an engine which Santa Claus held in his hand) Baby cannot withstand the temptation of cars.



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# [X104EC], Letter from Madeleine Edison to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, 1909

**Title**
[X104EC], Letter from Madeleine Edison to Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis) Miller, 1909

**Editor's Notes**
Supplied year

**Author**
Edison, Madeleine

**Recipient**
Miller, Mary Valinda (Mrs Lewis)

**Mentioned**

- Miller, Mary Emily
- Edison, Mina Miller (Mrs Thomas A.)
- Edison, Thomas Alva

**Date**
1909-00-00

**Type**
Letter

**Subject**
Edison-Miller family

**Folder ID**
X104E-F

**Document ID**
X104EC

**URL**
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**Timestamp**
1 January 1909

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THE HARBOR VIEW
EDGARTOWN, MASS.

HENRY W. MORSE
MANAGER

Darling Grandmother:

Mother has probably written you that I have deserted hearth & home for the joys of a hotel existence with the Fosters. It is very nice but I'm glad I don't live in a hotel when I'm home. Just now there is a genuine Northeaster raging outside, and the whole population is collected in one big room playing cards and doing other desperate things which they seem to enjoy. I have just had a telegram from Mother telling me to come home immediately as Father won't go around by Boston in the car, where I was going to meet them. It is the limit, even if it isn't

THE HARBOR VIEW
EDGARTOWN, MASS.

HENRY W. MORSE
MANAGER

for he had the most tactful and
gentle manner of managing us
both, together or separately, so that
as Anna says: neither of us could
be sure which one he liked best.
He never went with any other girls
except when we spurned him first.
And he was always ready at our
beck and call, and when we fished
he always had a bit of blarney to
put on each of our hooks - for he is
an Irishman by persuasion -
And he even told us that he
had thoughts of ordering tickets for
Salt Lake City for all three of
us. Could anyone do more?
Let us end his eulogies with tears

respectful to say so for by waiting to
meet them there I lost my chance of
having company all the way home -
Now I've got to go all alone and it is
so rough that I'll probably be sea-
sick and die going around Point Judith.
Ask Anna Mary if I can't be sea-sick
going around Point Judith.
We have been having lots of fun here
sailing and swimming - especially the
former and I have been learning
or trying to learn to sail a boat myself
by I were sure the craft would stick
to-gether - it would be very exciting to
go out to-day as there is quite a sea,
and wind enough to sail an ocean
liner and have some left over - but
alas my instructor has departed and
there is no one else devoted enough to
risk his life for my education -
Anna and I spoke bemoan the loss
of this particular swain. Who

with us now. He made a mistake when he turned down being a girl for that is what he was fitted for by nature. He is one of these poor, tired little things, with lily hands which he waves around with graceful languor while we tell him he looks pale and ought to take some rest before further exertion. Besides he is always having raptures about another girl here which is a thing we are not used to, and don't enjoy. In the midst of one of our most amiable discourses he will say that "Connie certainly knows how to sail a boat" which is a trifle disconcerting and causes one to lose the thread of ones thought. However, I suppose he must be good for our souls, as most unpleasant things are, and we ought to bear it patiently - but fine while I'm bearing it I cannot, so that lines of gloom are settling on my face.

THE HARBOR VIEW
EDGARTOWN. MASS.

HENRY W. MORSE
MANAGER

You probably think I'm crazy by this time, and just to confirm your suspicions I'll tell you what I did the other night. I couldn't sleep, that was the beginning of it, and when one lies three hours without losing consciousness beside a person who alternately talks in her sleep and snores with heartfelt enjoyment one is about ready to do something desperate. First I tried to stop the snores. I poked Anna gently and suggested that she turn over, whereupon she rose in the bed and inquired amiably whether I wanted her to turn towards me or the other way. After while I decided

that if I was to be put to the mental strain of deciding any such questions in the middle of the night there was no place to go but out. Accordingly I wrapped myself up in a Kimona and long cape took a clock and a bottle of ink – not to mention other writing materials – and sallied forth. Couldn't find any matches so I wandered around till I found a lighted gas fixture under which I seated myself on the floor and wrote two letters and part of a third. The hour being then about three a.m. I retired and slept off and on till morning. If anyone had come along and seen me. They would have thought I was crazy for fair & that they were – which last would probably have been correct.

With lots of love to all at Oak Place

Affectionately –

Madeleine.